

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 05571 041837Z  
ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-06 /025 W  
-----042337Z 055406 /70

R 041832Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2333

UNCLAS LONDON 05571

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: TBIO UK  
SUBJECT: LAETRILE (AMYGDALIN)

REF: STATE 49069

1. THERE IS NO RPT NO PRODUCT MARKETED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM CONTAINING AMYGDALIN AS THE PRINCIPAL ACTIVE INGREDIENT WHICH IS PROMOTED AS A CANCER "CURE."

2. ALL DRUGS MARKETED AFTER SEPTEMBER 1971 MUST MEET PRODUCT STANDARD REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE MEDICINES ACT OF 1968. IN RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST, THE COMMITTEE ON THE REVIEW OF MEDICINES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY REVIEWED CURRENT USAGE OF AMYGDALIN. AS FAR AS THEY CAN DETERMINE AMYGDALIN IS A CONSTITUENT OF ALMOND OIL AND AS SUCH IS USED IN A NUMBER OF PREPARATIONS. MOST WERE MARKETED BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1971 AND ARE THUS ENTITLED TO A "PRODUCT LICENSE OF RIGHT." AMONG THE MOST WIDELY KNOWN PRODUCTS TWELVE HAVE NO CLINICAL INDICATIONS OR CLAIMS AND ONE PREPARATION IS FOR RECTAL ADMINISTRATION PRESUMABLY FOR THE RELIEF OF HEMORRHOIDS. ALL OF THESE PRODUCTS ARE SCHEDULED TO BE REVIEWED BY THE COMMITTEE FOR QUALITY, SAFETY AND EFFICACY OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS. UNDER THREAT OF THIS REVIEW, MANY OF THEM ARE BEING VOLUNTARILY WITHDRAWN BY THEIR MANUFACTURERS.

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SPIERS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, DRUGS, LAW, TRADE CONTROLS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 04-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Subject:** LAETRILE (AMYGDALIN)  
**TAGS:** TBIO, UK, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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